

AL-V-A-120  
Bishields Store

This store was built early in the twentieth century by Michael Bishields. It is located in the mining village of Slabtown near Mount Savage. Each small town in the George's Creek mining region had at least one store. The small one and one-half story structure is unique in appearance. It is built of bricks of various hues of brown and has a sloping shed roof. First floor entrances and windows have segmental brick arches and sawed scrolled tympanum.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Bishield's Store

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Slabtown Road

Sixth

CITY, TOWN

Slabtown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES RESTRICTED☒ YES UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☒ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

George Bishields

Telephone #: 264-3851

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Mount Savage

VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland Zip code 21545

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 387

Folio #: 131

STREET &amp; NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE Maryland Zip code 21502

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

AL-V-A-120

**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bishield's Store is located in Slabtown near Mount Savage.

The rectangular building is one and one-half stories tall and two bays wide. Wall construction is of brown brick laid in american common bond in a variation of five to one. It rests on a low brick foundation with no apparent water table. The building has a shed roof with close pent eaves.

The main entrance, offset on the southeast, and a side entrance on the southwest have doors of two panels and four lights. Entrances and first floor windows have segmental brick arches, scrolled tyrnpanum, and roll moulding. One over one light sash windows are nailed and have brick sills.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

| PERIOD                                    |  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC      | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING      | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499        | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION            | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599        | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS               | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION               | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799        | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING             | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE     | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY                | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION               |   |  |  |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This store was built early in the twentieth century by Michael Bishields. (1) It is located in the mining village of Slabtown near Mount Savage. Each small town in the George's Creek mining region had "at least one store." (2)

By the turn of the century the unpopular company operated stores had disappeared and a number of miners and miners' sons had entered the professional class to take their place. (3) This particular business was most likely an "all-inclusive general store", but other members of the mining population were marketing "specialties." (4)

The small one and one-half story structure is unique in appearance. It is built of bricks of various hues of brown and has a sloping shed roof. First floor entrances and windows have segmental brick arches and sawed scrolled tympanum.

- (1) Interview with Mrs. Marianna Keene, Slabtown, Md. 3-4-80
- (2) Katherine A. Harvey, Best Dressed Miners: Life and Labor in the Maryland Coal Region, 1835-1910 (Ithaca: Cornell University Press) p. 84
- (3) Ibid, pp-85-86
- (4) Ibid

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Harvey, Katherine A. Best Dressed Miners: Life and Labor in the Maryland Coal Region, 1835-1910 (Ithica: Cornell University Press, 1969)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 16.2 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator  
Julie Baker, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites

DATE

March 5, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

3 Pershing Street

TELEPHONE

777-5944

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Bashiri's Store 264-3851

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Slabtown Call for info

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: SE

NAME OF OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: William J. Winebrenner yellow brick

110/605/10 MAP 13 p 69

CD 13

Rt. 1 Box 17 Mt Savage 21545

STORIES: 1( 1/2 ) 2( ) 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) BAYS: 1( ) 2( ✓ ) 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) 7( ) ( )

WINGS, ADDITIONS:

DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- ( ) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)  
( ✓ ) BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants. 5 & 1  
( ) STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated  
( ) LOG  
( ) OTHER: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others \_\_\_\_\_

FOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone

WATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded Brick

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1( ✓ ) 2/2( ) 6/6( ) 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( )  
pegged( ) nailed( ✓ ) wide( ) narrow( ) mitred( ) pediment( )

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: offset SE 4 lights 2 panel  
HARDWARE: original( ) replaced( ) same as side door?  
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN  
Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: X (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)  
original( ) replaced( ) rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architrave

ROOF: TARPAPEX Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Shed Flat, Dormers # \_\_\_\_\_  
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt; original( ) replaced( )

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - X shed( ) hip( ) gable( )

CHIMNEYS: Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Brick( X ) Stone( ) Corbeled( ) original( ) replaced( )  
Location: Flush end( X ) Inside end( ) Outside end( ) Central( ) Interior( )

ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

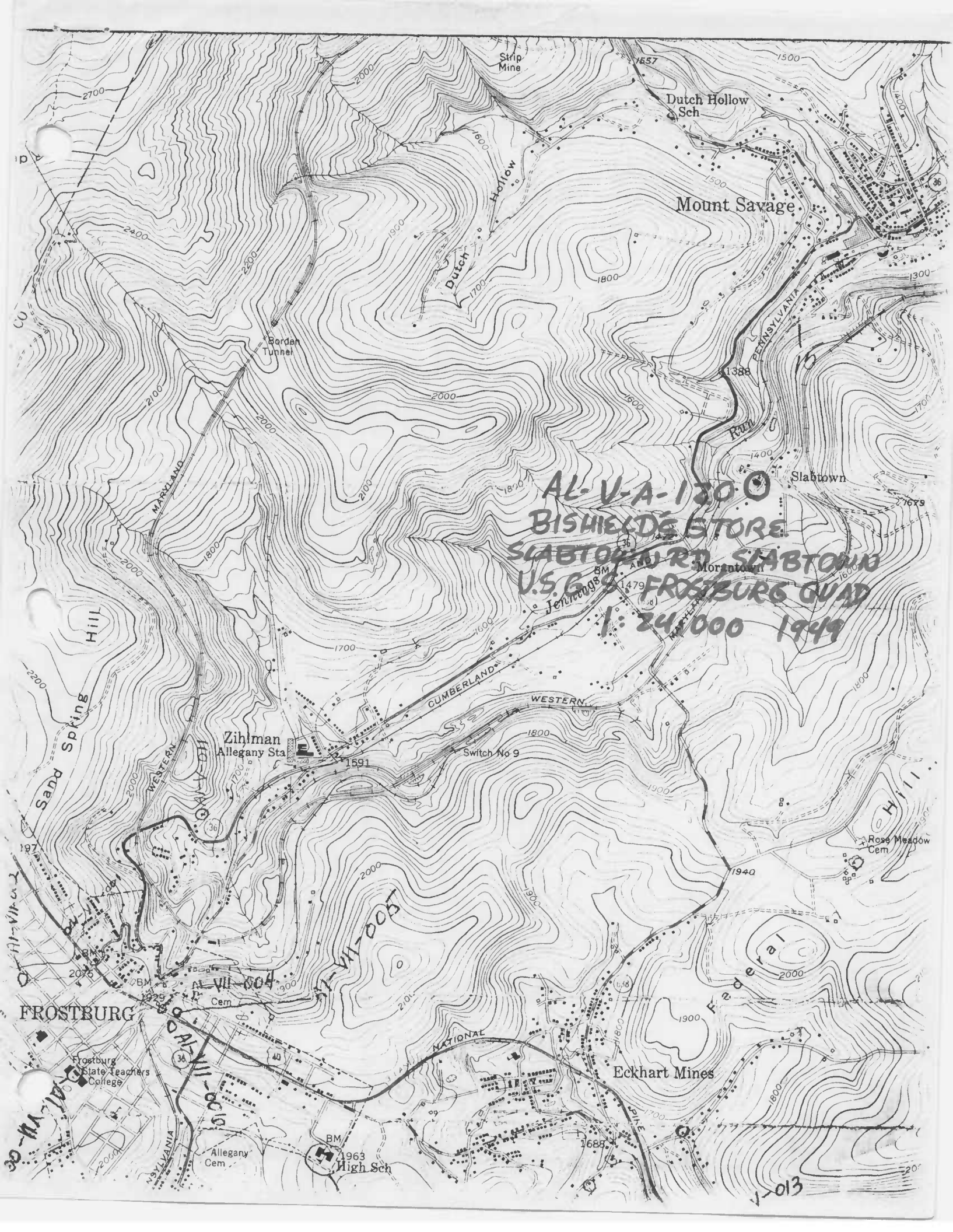
COMMENTS: Brick sills header deco panel

USE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNIFICANCE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CONSTRUCTED: \_\_\_\_\_

REVISION: \_\_\_\_\_



AL-V-A-130  
BISHIE DE STORE  
SLABTOWN RD SLABTOWN  
U.S.G. FROSTBURG GUAD  
1:24,000 1949

FROSTBURG

Mount Savage

Eckhart Mines

Zihlman  
Allegany Sta

Switch No 9

Dutch Hollow  
Sch

Rose Meadow  
Cem

1963  
High Sch

Allegany  
Cem

Frostburg  
State Teachers  
College





AL-V-A-120

BISHIELD'S STORE  
SLABTOWN RD, SLABTOWN

DAVID A. DORSEY

12/1/78

North